

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Money: *Curse* or *Grace*

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Are we created for jest or have any purpose?

Al-Qur'an:23:115:

﴿أَفَحَسِبْتُمْ أَنَّمَا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ عَبَثًا وَأَنَّكُمْ إِلَيْنَا لَا تُرْجَعُونَ﴾

"Did you then think that We had created you in jest, and that you would not be brought back to Us (for account)?"

What is actual purpose of life?

Al-Qur'an:51:56:

﴿وَمَا خَلَقْتُ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسَ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُونِ﴾

"I (Allah) have only created Jinns and human beings, that they should serve Me."

Everything in this world is not but a trial:

Al-Qur'an:18:7:

﴿إِنَّا جَعَلْنَا مَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ زِينَةً لِّهَا لِنَبْلُوَهُمْ أَيُّهُمْ أَحْسَنُ عَمَلًا﴾

“Surely We have made whatever is on the earth an embellishment for it, so that We may try them (as to) which of them is best in conduct.”

What is the basic belief of Islam regarding possession or wealth?

(1) Possession or wealth is just a worldly trial from Allah:

(a) Al-Qur'an:8:28 & Al-Qur'an:64:15:

﴿وَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّمَا أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَأَوْلَادُكُمْ فِتْنَةٌ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ عِنْدَهُ أَجْرٌ عَظِيمٌ﴾

“And know that your wealth and your children are only a trial; but in the Presence of Allah ,is the immense Reward.”

(b) Al-Qur'an:3:186:

﴿لَتُبْلَوْنَ فِي أَمْوَالِكُمْ وَأَنفُسِكُمْ وَلَتَسْمَعَنَّ مِنَ الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ وَمِنَ الَّذِينَ أَشْرَكُوا أَذًى كَثِيرًا ۖ وَإِنْ تَصْبِرُوا وَتَتَّقُوا فَإِنَّ ذَلِكَ مِنْ عَزْمِ الْأُمُورِ﴾

“You shall certainly be tried and tested in your wealth and in your personal selves; and you shall certainly Hear much that will grieve you, from those who received the Book before you (i.e. Jews and christians) and from those who worship many gods. But if ye persevere patiently, and guard against evil,-then that will be a determining factor in all affairs.”

(2) Possession or wealth is a Grace from Allah:

Al-Qur'an:3:180:

﴿وَلَا يَحْسَبَنَّ الَّذِينَ يَبْخُلُونَ بِمَا آتَاهُمُ اللَّهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ هُوَ خَيْرٌ لَّهُمْ بَلْ هُوَ شَرٌّ لَّهُمْ سَيُطَوَّقُونَ مَا بَخُلُوا بِهِ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ وَلِلَّهِ مِيرَاثُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَاللَّهُ يَمَا تَعْمَلُونَ خَبِيرٌ﴾

Those who withhold in miserliness what Allah has given them out of His grace should not take it as good for them. Instead, it is bad for them. They shall be forced, on the Doomsday, to put on what they withheld, as iron-collars round their necks. To Allah belongs the inheritance of the heavens and the earth. Allah is All-Aware of what you do.

(3) Money Hoarding or Black-Marketing is prohibited in Islam:

Al-Qur'an:2:177:

﴿لَيْسَ الدِّينُ أَنْ تُؤَلُّوا أَوْجُوهَكُمْ قِبَلَ الْمَشْرِقِ وَالْمَغْرِبِ وَلَكِنَّ الدِّينَ مَنْ آمَنَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَالْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالْكِتَابِ وَالنَّبِيِّينَ وَآتَى الْمَالَ عَلَى حُبِّهِ ذَوِي الْقُرْبَى وَالْيَتَامَى وَالْمَسَاكِينَ وَابْنَ السَّبِيلِ وَالسَّائِلِينَ وَفِي الرِّقَابِ وَأَقَامَ الصَّلَاةَ وَآتَى الزَّكَاةَ وَالْمُوفُونَ بِعَهْدِهِمْ إِذَا عَاهَدُوا وَالصَّابِرِينَ فِي الْبَأْسَاءِ وَالضَّرَاءِ وَحِينَ الْبَأْسِ أُولَئِكَ الَّذِينَ صَدَقُوا وَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُتَّقُونَ﴾

Righteousness is not (merely) that you turn your faces to the East and the West ;but righteousness is that one believes in Allah and the Last Day and the angels and the Book and the Prophets, and gives wealth, despite (his) love for it, to relatives, and to orphans, the helpless, the wayfarer, and to those who ask, and) spends) in (freeing) slaves and observes the Salah (prayers) and pays Zakah and (the act of) those who fulfill their covenant when they enter into a covenant, and, of course, those who are patient in hardship and suffering and when in battle! Those are the ones who are truthful, and those are the God-fearing.

Prophet Muhammd (peace and blessings be upon him) strictly prohibit Muslims from Money hoarding:

Sahih Al Bukhari: hadith no.1433

Narrated Asma: The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said to me:

"Do not withhold your money, (for if you did so) Allah would withhold His blessings from you."

In another narration, The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said:

"Do not withhold your money by counting it (i.e. hoarding it), (for if you did so), Allah would also withhold His blessings from you."

(4) Wasting Money for worldly desire is not encouraged by Islam:

Al-Qur'an:3:117:

﴿مَثَلُ مَا يُنْفِقُونَ فِي هَذِهِ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا كَمَثَلِ رِيحٍ فِيهَا صِرٌّ أَصَابَتْ حَرْثَ قَوْمٍ ظَلَمُوا أَنْفُسَهُمْ فَأَهْلَكَتْهُ وَمَا ظَلَمَهُمُ اللَّهُ وَلَكِنْ أَنْفُسَهُمْ يَظْلِمُونَ﴾

The example of what they spend in this worldly life is just like a wind that ,having chill within, struck the tillage of those who wronged themselves, and destroyed it. Allah has not wronged them; rather, they did wrong to themselves.

Note: Many things I leave to shorten this article. If you would like to read in detail then read my Book “Trials and Patience”.